

1. W. B. McQuinn, Charlotte Duke
2. O. J. Miller, Exec V-Pres CVNPA (75-51)
STATEMENT BY SENATOR STROM THURMOND (D-SC) BEFORE JOINT ATOMIC
ENERGY COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION, MAY 23, 1958.

MR. CHAIRMAN:

I shall make my remarks quite brief and to the point. My purpose in appearing here this morning is to urge that the committee waive the usual 45-day review period and give approval for the Parr Shoals project to enter its construction phase at the earliest possible moment.

This is the kind of project that should be encouraged and supported by every citizen. It is a partnership arrangement, a joint venture shared by the government and private enterprise. It is not an intrusion by government into the free enterprise system, but rather this is a joint effort to develop atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

The construction of the Parr Shoals project is an important step in the development of a nuclear power system that will eventually cover the entire Southeast. We all agree, I believe, that we should aim to develop such a power system. The only question, in considering any specific step in that direction, is to consider whether that particular step is a sound and feasible one. In the case of the Parr Shoals project, there is general agreement that this is a wise and timely step.

At the present time, the general economic recession has had an adverse effect on the economy of the area in South Carolina in which the Parr Shoals plant will be built. The citizens of Fairfield County, and the counties adjoining, are looking forward to an improvement in the economic situation there when this large

(15-57)
construction project gets underway. In my opinion, the sooner we can bring about this stimulus to the economy, the greater the beneficial effect.

Finally, I would like to emphasize the fact that the Virginia-Carolinas group is ready to get underway with this undertaking. If the waiting period can be waived, there need be no further delay.

I therefore urge that the Committee give its consent to the request that the review period be waived.

-END-